

## Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

Wilson, Larry David. 1988. *Tantilla calamarina*.

*Tantilla calamarina* Cope

*Tantilla calamarina* Cope, 1866: 320. Type-locality, "Guadalajara, [Jalisco] México" (questioned by Peters, 1954, and Zweifel, 1959). Holotype, National Museum of Natural History 6600, an adult female collected by J. J. Major, date of collection unknown (examined by author).

*Tantilla bimaculata* Cope, 1876: 143. Type-locality, "near Mazatlan," Sinaloa, México. Holotype, USNM 6834, an adult female collected by F. Bischoff, date of collection unknown (examined by author).

*Homalocranium bimaculatum*: Bocourt, 1883: 580.

*Homalocranium bimaculatum*: Günther, 1895: 154.

*Homalocranium calamarinum*: Boulenger, 1896: 227.

*Tantilla martinidelcampoi* Taylor, 1937: 347. Type-locality, "near El Treinta, Guerrero on the México-Acapulco Highway." Holotype, University of Illinois Museum of Natural History 25062, a juvenile (?) male collected 29 June 1932 by Edward H. Taylor (examined by author).

*Geophis gertschi* Bogert and Porter, 1966: 1. Type-locality, "2 miles south of Tonila, Jalisco, but in the state of Colima, at the northern extremity of the Distrito de Cuauhtemoc," México. Holotype, American Museum of Natural History 98477, an adult (?) male collected 28 August 1965 by Willis J. Gertsch and Richard Hastings (examined by author).

• **Content.** No subspecies have been described.

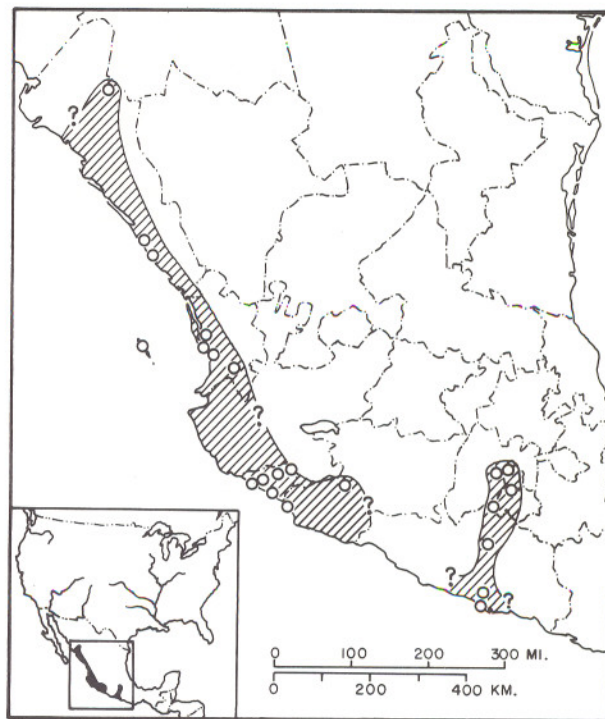
• **Definition.** A species of *Tantilla* with a dark middorsal stripe occupying as little as the middle of the middorsal row to as much as the middorsal row and adjacent halves of the paravertebral rows, and a dark lateral stripe on rows 3 and 4 (frequently, on their adjacent halves). The dorsal ground color is tan to brown, grading to cream ventrolaterally. The venter is immaculate cream. The head pattern consists of "a spatulate dark anterior extension of the middorsal dark stripe flanked by two pale postparietal spots...The lateral dark stripe [on the dorsum of the body] continues anteriorly along the side of the head across the temporals, lower portion of the postocular, around the eye and onto the preocular and postnasal. The lower edge of this 'mask' passes along the upper edge of the supralabials, which are otherwise cream-colored" (Wilson and Meyer, 1981). Supralabials are usually 6 and there is a single postocular. Ventrals and subcaudals range from 113 to 140 and 25 to 42, respectively.

• **Diagnosis.** *Tantilla calamarina* may be distinguished from all congeners by having a dark middorsal stripe, a lateral dark stripe on rows 3 and 4, a pale-outlined dark spatulate head figure followed by pale postparietal spots, a single postocular, usually 6 supralabials, 113 to 140 ventrals, and 25 to 42 subcaudals.

• **Descriptions.** A summary description of this species was provided by Smith (1942). Descriptions of material from restricted portions of the range are in Oliver (1937), Taylor (1937, 1939), Hartweg (1944), Schmidt and Shannon (1947), Duellman (1961), Peters (1954), Zweifel (1960), Bogert and Porter (1966), Hardy and McDiarmid (1969), and McDiarmid, Copp, and Breedlove (1976). The most complete description is in Wilson and Meyer (1981).

• **Illustrations.** The best illustrations, consisting of pen-and-ink drawings of the head and anterior body, as well as the dorsal color pattern, are in Wilson and Meyer (1981).

• **Distribution.** *Tantilla calamarina* occurs at low, moderate, and intermediate elevations (sea level to ca. 1653 m) of the Pacific versant of México from Sinaloa to Guerrero and Morelos, including the Tres Mariás Islands. An unconfirmed record exists for Tezuitlán, Puebla, México. The type locality is, most likely, in error.



**Map.** Distribution of *Tantilla calamarina* in México. Circles mark known localities, shaded area estimates total range. The type-locality, "Guadalajara, México," is probably incorrect and is not plotted.

• **Fossil Record.** None.

• **Pertinent Literature.** Much of the literature on this species is listed in the Descriptions and Illustrations sections. The species has been listed in a number of summary works, including those of Bocourt (1883), Cope (1887), Günther (1895), Boulenger (1896), Amaral (1929), Smith and Taylor (1945), and Smith and Smith (1976). Ecological distribution was discussed by Duellman (1965), Hardy and McDiarmid (1969), and Wilson and Meyer (1981). Reproductive morphology of the female was discussed by Clark (1970).

• **Etymology.** The name *calamarina* is derived from the Latin *calamarius*, meaning "a writing reed" and the suffix *-ina*, used in forming feminine names, in reference to the slender habitus of this species.

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